

TOWN OF NEWFIELDS BOARD OF SELECTMEN
MEETING MINUTES
TUESDAY, DECEMBER 20, 2005

The meeting was called to order at 6:30pm. Selectmen present were: Janet Smith, James McIlroy, and Roberta Gherkin. Others present were: Ed Scanlon, Lynn Sweet, Chris Bolt, Brad Jones, Reuben Hull, Aaron Brown, and Brian Knipstein.

The Selectmen reviewed the latest Harvard Pilgrim Health Plan proposal and decided to stay with their original choice.

The abatements were signed with one exception. The exception will be reviewed in more detail at the next meeting.

Ed Scanlon advised the Selectmen that his street has not been plowed the last two snowstorms. He was advised that Evergreen Estates was on the Agenda at 7:15pm.

Lynn Sweet told the Selectmen that she is not able to get renewal insurance quotes until early February, 2006. This will not be in time for the 2006 Budget.

James asked if the Town is entitled to any credits for the Police Certification. Lynn has submitted the documentation to the insurance company and is waiting for their decision.

The group representing Evergreen Estates was in to discuss their displeasure over the Selectmen's decision to not conditionally accept Scanlon Way and Heath Drive as town roads. The group's feeling is that the roads can be conditionally accepted because the binder coat and shoulders are complete. In the past, this was acceptable for conditional acceptance and Occupancy Certificates could be issued. The developer would provide a Road Maintenance Bond in case of problems with the road. Brian Knipstein said that in the past once the binder coat was down, the road was conditionally accepted – no summer maintenance was performed by the Town, but in the winter the road was snowplowed for Fire, Ambulance, Police, etc. The final coat is not usually put down on the road until the houses are 75% built or the binder coat has been in place for one year.

The Building Inspector has said no to Occupancy Certificates because the roads have not been accepted by the Town. Chris Bolt advised that this goes against the Agreement the Developer made with the Town. Attorney Chris Bolt asked that tolling be granted so that the Developer does not lose his chance to appeal the decision of the Board if it is not in the Developer's favor. James made a motion to grant tolling, Janet seconded the motion, and all were in favor.

The Selectmen hope to have an answer by December 27th on whether or not the roads will be conditionally accepted. The Evergreen Group does not have to come back. We will call them with our decision.

Restrictions can be added to the Conditional Approval – such as plowing only in the winter. Brian Knipstein and Reuben Hull are both in favor of conditional approval with the stipulation of winter maintenance only.

James made a motion to conditionally accept Scanlon Way and Heath Drive as Town roads for winter maintenance only (snow plowing). Janet seconded the motion and the motion was passed with all in favor.

The Selectmen asked Nancy to inform the Building Inspector of their decision for Scanlon Way and Heath Drive. He is now able to issue Occupancy Certificates if all items pass inspection.

Reuben Hull was asked if Sam Taylor had contacted him regarding the ADA Compliance issue. Reuben will contact Sam directly and review the proposed changes to the plan which Sam presented to the Selectmen last week.

There were no bids on the Assessor's position. The Selectmen signed the renewal contract for the current company – Brett S. Purvis & Associates, Inc.

Reuben Hull has posted the changes for inclusion in the Zoning Ordinance.

The CIP is now complete. Included in the CIP are: ADS Financial Software, renovating the old Post Office Building, renovating the Town Office, and playing fields.

Reuben Hull advised that Les Case requested being placed on the Agenda with the Planning Board to discuss his subdivision application, which he (Les Case) feels is in order. Reuben stated that the Planning Board needs a letter from Fran Lane, the Town Attorney, with the current status and what Mr. Case needs for the Town to go forward with his subdivision application. The Planning Board did not have a quorum at their meeting.

The Department of Environmental Services advised they are in town performing well inventory. They will be taking GPS readings to identify wells in Newfields.

Nancy received a letter from Al Dixon, Town Manager of Newmarket, regarding the renewal of the Dispatch Service Contract. The Selectmen wish to review this with Chief Reed as the price of the contract has increased substantially.

James made a motion to accept the minutes of the December 13th meeting with the changes noted. Roberta seconded the motion and the motion passed with all in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

